



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

MAYOR PEREZ CONGRATULATES COUNCIL ON ADOPTION OF CONVENIENCE STORE ORDINANCE

---MEDIA RELEASE---

(May 30, 2007)--- **Mayor Eddie A. Perez is pleased with City Council's unanimous vote to adopt an ordinance that calls for more responsibility and accountability regarding after hours convenience stores.** Mayor Perez says, "This ordinance demonstrates our commitment to better serving and protecting our neighborhoods and the quality of life for our residents, workers and customers."

The ordinance, which went into effect immediately upon last night's adoption by Council, affects neighborhood businesses that operate their shops between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. These businesses must register with the City in order to operate after hours. Depending on the number of or the severity of quality of life infractions, a business could ultimately lose its privilege to stay open overnight.

If there are quality of life disturbances (noise, vandalism, anything that would require police to intervene) that take place either at or outside these businesses, action will be taken in order to put safety first. Police statistics show that most of these calls come between midnight and 2:00 a.m.

Mayor Perez fully supports this ordinance that was sponsored by Assistant Majority Leader Calixto Torres and Councilman Jim Boucher. Government, Police, business owners, and residents who live near these after-hours shops were all consulted on what has worked in other cities throughout the country and what "best practices" could be adopted in Hartford to best protect everyone involved, including employees and customers.

Mayor Perez says, "It takes all of us working together to build more vibrant communities. This ordinance will help ensure that the quality of life of our law-abiding residents and businesses is upheld."

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